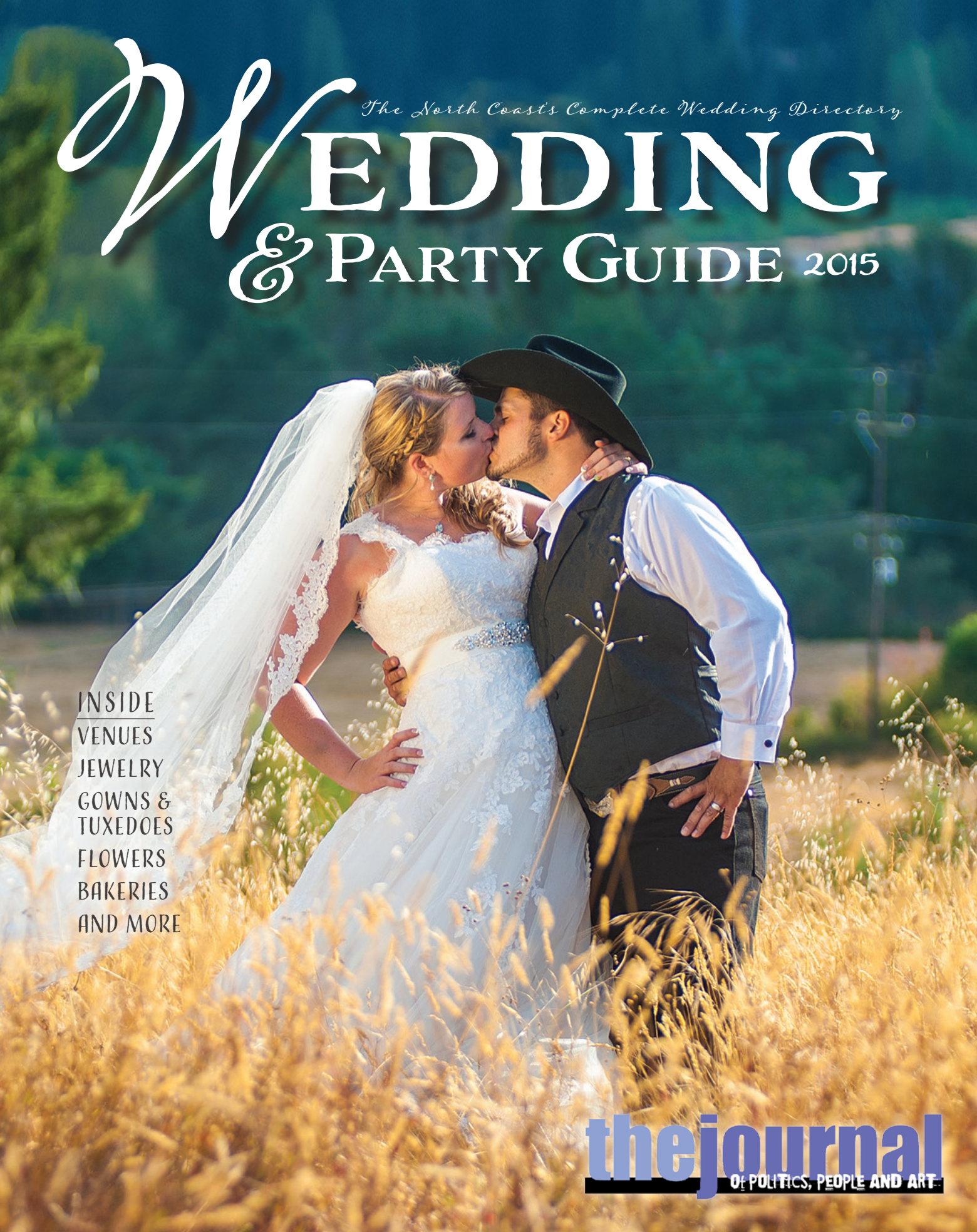


A full-page photograph of a bride and groom in a field of tall, golden grass. The bride is wearing a white lace wedding dress and a long veil, and the groom is wearing a black cowboy hat, a white shirt, and a black vest. They are standing close together, kissing. The background is a soft-focus landscape with green trees and a clear sky.

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Feature



At the HITCHING POST

A couple saddles up
for a maverick wedding

By Amy Cirincione O'Connor
Photos by Chris Tuite Photography

On August 16 in the heart of Humboldt's summer, 200 guests gathered on a 40-acre ranch in Carlotta to celebrate Jenna and Cory Sutton's marriage. While "rustic chic" themed weddings are on trend at the moment, the beauty of Jenna and Cory's wedding was that its homespun style represented their roots, their community and their love story.

Jenna and Cory were born and raised on opposite ends of Humboldt County (McKinleyville and Ferndale, respectively), and it took the Internet to bring them together. After meeting on a dating website, the two exchanged text messages for two months while their busy lives kept them apart. "I was traveling in Alaska. He was elk hunting in Idaho, so we got to know each other that way," said Jenna. They finally met in person for dinner at Curley's and sparks flew. From there, their courtship read like a tour of Humboldt's most romantic spots, including hikes up Strawberry Rock, walks on Centerville and Trinidad beaches, and trips to Ruth Lake. Jenna describes their romance as the kind of thing "you read about but don't think will ever happen to you. We were basically inseparable." Six months after they began dating, the couple bought a house together. Soon after that, they had a daughter, Abbigale.

Cory and Jenna spoke often about getting married, but felt no rush to follow a traditional timeline. They decided to wait to wed until Abbigale was old enough to be a flower girl in the ceremony. When Abbigale was old enough to scatter

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AT THE HITCHING POST

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➤ CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT

Final touches up in the saddle; a cowboy walks flower girl Abbigale down the aisle; Cory Sutton's groomsmen at arms; the Suttons give stuffy style the boot; yes, deer — Cory's groom's cake.

◀ OVERLEAF Jenna Sutton and Cheyenne, her ride to the wedding.



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petals, Cory proposed to Jenna during dinner at the Hotel Ivanhoe by saying, "It's time for you to pick out a ring." Jenna says she then "went gung ho" on wedding planning.

Jenna knew she wanted a relaxed, country casual feeling for their wedding. "We're not stuffy people," she said. She envisioned a beautiful, fun event that was a little rough around the edges, represented by the contrast of burlap and lace. Instead of hiring a wedding planner, she decided on all of the details herself. She perused Pinterest for ideas and pulled inspiration for design elements from the couple's life together. She then recruited talented and beloved friends and family to help bring her ideas to life. As a result, every detail of the wedding held personal significance.

The wedding decorations reflected the couple's shared love of fishing, hunting, horses and the outdoors. Deer antlers decorated the tables. Jenna wore cowboy boots under her wedding gown, and Cory and his groomsmen wore Wranglers. The

groom's cake, baked and decorated by Cory's aunt, was topped with a doe and a buck in wedding outfits. Jenna's grandmother even made the flower arrangements on the tables.

Inspired by images from *The Princess Bride*, Jenna rode into the wedding ceremony on her horse, Cheyenne. She trained Cheyenne for this moment for over a month by riding him with a white sheet draped over Jenna's shoulders. The breathtaking spectacle of Jenna's veil and gown streaming down Cheyenne's flanks was well worth the preparation. After the grand entrance, Jenna's father lifted her from Cheyenne's back and brought her gently down into the grass. Jenna walked down the aisle toward Cory with her mother and father at her sides. The ceremony was officiated by Cory's cousin, Joseph.

After the ceremony, guests feasted on stuffed mushrooms and a cascading fruit arrangement prepared by Cory's aunt Shari (the same gourmet talent behind the doe



and buck wedding cake). Dinner was catered by family friends at Blackberry Bramble Barbeque, who served an all-out country feast of pulled pork, tri-tip, pasta, green salads, potatoes, parmesan zucchini and beans.

The couple's reception was as full of personal touches as the ceremony. Entertainment was provided by KJ Leonard, the karaoke guru from Blue Lake Casino, and a favorite of Jenna, who describes herself as a "karaoke singer extraordinaire." Not only did KJ Leonard play lots of fun music for guests, he provided musical backup for Jenna when she serenaded Cory with Shania Twain's "From This Moment."

Not a dry eye in the house. The wedding guests were clearly touched by Jenna's sing-

ing, but her father was the one who stole the show during the father-daughter dance to Guns N' Roses' power ballad "Sweet Child of Mine." The unorthodox choice was a huge hit. "My father doesn't dance, so he was super nervous," Jenna said. "He did it for me. The guests were completely enamored with him." The dance's grand finale was Jenna laying down some air guitar. Can a bride be more badass?

As Jenna reflects on the wedding, she is grateful she and Cory didn't feel pressured to stick to the usual script and instead created an event that reflected their life and love together — that includes all the people they love who helped them ride off into the sunset. 🌸



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Wedding Quilts

Memories
to keep
you warm

By Linda Stansberry

The advent of registries has taken a lot of the hassle out of buying wedding gifts, but also a lot of the charm. Sure, the happy couple isn't going to end up with three toasters, but registries leave little room for the handmade, the heartfelt and the personal. A wedding quilt is one way to bridge the distance between sentiment and practicality.

"How often do you go back and look at a wedding guest book?" says Susie Freese of Susie Sews in Eureka. "You use a quilt every day."

Freese spreads one of her creations out on the living room floor. Designed in a star pattern, it contains messages and well-wishes from the guests in each of the squares. Freese uses a special technique where the messages — written on slips of paper at the wedding — are photocopied onto fabric and then sewn into the quilt. She says she gets a kick out of reading them.

"A lot of times there are inside jokes and things that are special to the couple."

On the back of the quilt there's a copy of the wedding invitation, sewn like a tag into one corner. Freese, who has been quilting profession-

Freese says that while wedding quilts can be beautiful and meaningful, they're meant to be used, not just looked at.

ally since 2005, says that she creates wedding quilts for friends and family as gifts, but charging for the fabric and labor would be cost-prohibitive for many couples. A hand-made quilt can easily sell for \$600.

"It's easier to make them and give them away," she says, adding that she swaps advice and fabric with other would-be quilters. Patterns for wedding quilts can be as unique as the couple themselves: wreathes,

clouds, squares, flowers. The traditional Double Wedding Ring pattern is rarely seen today, Freese says, as it's a time-consuming

process. To illustrate, she brings out an older quilt, sewn by hand half a century ago. The stitches are tiny, sewn by hand in loops that bind and circle each other, echoing the cut of the contrasting fabric.

"When people tell me they're going to sew a Double Wedding Ring quilt for their daughter's wedding I usually laugh," says Freese. "It's a long process and a lot of people get frustrated and stop. Also, it doesn't usually lay flat on the bed."

She tugs at the corners of the quilt on the floor. The fabric is slightly humped around the stitches, a hazard of this particular pattern. Freese adds that sometimes couples will want pieces of their wedding dress in the quilt pattern, which also tends to make the quilt buckle instead of laying flat. Using bits of fabric that are personal to the quilt's recipient is a nice touch, she says,



Wedding quilt and detail (left).
Photos courtesy
of Amber and Paul
Woodworth.

as long as they're aware that that fabric might not hold up as well as the kinds professional quilters usually use.

Ultimately, Freese says that while wedding quilts can be beautiful and meaningful, they're meant to be used, not just looked at.

"A quilt should die a slow death," she says.

Paul and Amber Woodworth, who married in 2000, fall asleep under their wedding quilt every night, and it's slowly starting to show signs of wear.

The quilt was organized and pieced together by Paul's mother Rosalind (Lyndi) Woodworth, who recruited family members and fellow quilters to sew each of the squares. The quilt was a surprise gift. The couple were living with their extended family in Dinsmore on the year before their wedding, and Amber recalls coming home from work every evening and asking her mother-

in-law to be what she'd done during the day.

"She would say, 'Oh nothing,'" says Amber, laughing. Meanwhile, Lyndi and relatives across the country were busily stitching away at the pattern, which consists of 35 unique pictorial squares from an antique applique pattern. On the back of the quilt Lyndi sewed the names of who had contributed each square. Once the quilt was finished she took a picture and made notecards on which the quilt's contributors could write messages for the couple. She presented the quilt and the notecards to Paul and Amber just after their ceremony.

Amber says they were touched beyond description.

"It was a total surprise," she says. "And we use it every day."

The quilt is especially precious to Paul and Amber as Lyndi lost her battle with cancer in 2009.

She was busy, Amber says, right up until the very end, sewing quilts for her children and grandchildren.

Trousseaus, wedding gifts and registries serve a common function: to prepare a new couple for a united life. In marriage, possessions are merged along with last names and family histories. But in an era where we increasingly have more and more stuff, and where couples often have everything they might possibly need for a new household, gift-giving can be a challenge. We want to give a new couple something that speaks to our best wishes for their marriage. We want them to feel warm and sheltered, and supported by the love of their community. A wedding quilt is something tangible that embodies all of those wishes. Like marriage, it's an everyday art.



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WEDDING & PARTY GUIDE 2015

Wedding & Party Guide 2015

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310 F St., Eureka, CA 95501
707 442-1400 | fax 707 442-1401

Publisher
Chuck Leishman

Arts & Features Editor
Jennifer Fumiko Cahill

Calendar Editor
Kali Cozyris

Contributors
Amy Cirincione O'Connor, Lynn Leishman,
Jennifer Savage, Heather Shelton,
Linda Stansberry

Art Director/Production Manager
Holly Harvey

Graphic Design/Production
Amy Barnes, Miles Eggleston,
Carolyn Fernandez, Christian Pennington,
Jonathan Webster

Sales Manager
Melissa Sanderson

Advertising Sales
Mike Herring, Shane Mizer,
Tad Sarvinski, Kyle Windham

Marketing & Promotions Manager
Drew Hyland

Office Manager/Bookkeeper
Carmen England

Receptionist
Penelope Trawick



on the cover

Jenna and Cory
Sutton were
hitched on
Aug. 16, 2014.
Read their
story on page
10. Photo by
Chris Tuite
Photography.

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Amy Kurler



WEDDING check list

TWELVE TO NINE MONTHS BEFORE

- ☐ Propose
- ☐ Announce engagement
- ☐ Determine the type of wedding you want, setting, size and degree of formality.
- ☐ Select a date and time. Consider time of day, as this affects formality and catering choices.
- ☐ Select a location for the ceremony, taking into consideration season and weather.
- ☐ Book a reception site.
- ☐ Consider having a web page.
- ☐ Determine who will officiate the ceremony.
- ☐ Set an initial budget and decide who is contributing.
- ☐ Decide how expenses will be shared.
- ☐ Shop together for rings. Appraise and insure the engagement ring.
- ☐ Determine guest list size.
- ☐ Select and book a caterer, photographer, videographer and/

or wedding planner.

- ☐ Determine wedding attendants.
- ☐ Choose your colors; they will affect your flowers, invitations, attire, linens and cake.
- ☐ Choose your bridal gown and headpiece.
- ☐ Select and book entertainment for reception as well as music for ceremony.

NINE TO SIX MONTHS BEFORE

- ☐ Announce your engagement in the newspaper.
- ☐ Send out "Save the Date" cards.
- ☐ Choose dresses and accessories for bridesmaids and flower girls.
- ☐ Start compiling names and addresses of guests.
- ☐ Begin your bridal registry.
- ☐ Maintain records of all gifts received and send thank-you notes immediately for shower gifts. Wedding gift thank-you notes should not be mailed until after the wedding.

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SIX TO FOUR MONTHS BEFORE

- Select and order invitations.
- Plan honeymoon.
- Help mothers select and coordinate their dresses.
- Ensure that all bridal attire has been ordered.
- Begin shopping for trousseau.
- Check requirements for blood test and marriage license.
- Discuss where you will live after the wedding.
- Experiment with hair styles and makeup.
- Select baker and order wedding cake.

FOUR TO TWO MONTHS BEFORE

- Arrange transportation, limousines, horse and carriage, vans, etc.
- Choose and reserve men's wedding attire.
- Start addressing invitations and announcements. Invitations should be mailed six weeks prior to the ceremony.
- Design a map to direct guests to the ceremony and reception site for an insertion with the invitations.
- Arrange accommodations for out-of-town attendants and guests.
- Plan and collect information packets with maps and brochures for out-of-town guests.

- Confirm all details with your hired professionals.
- Confirm ceremony details with your officiant.
- Arrange rehearsal details.
- Plan rehearsal dinner.
- Purchase accessories such as ring pillow, toasting goblets, guest registry.
- Plan attendants' parties.
- Make appointment with your hairdresser and makeup artist.
- Schedule final fitting.
- Schedule attendants' final fitting.
- Finalize honeymoon plans.
- Have physical exam.

ONE MONTH BEFORE

- Get blood test and marriage license.
- Have your final dress fitting.
- Have formal bridal portrait done.
- Have final fitting for wedding attendants.
- Select gifts for wedding participants.
- Purchase gift for fiancé(e).
- Have attendants' parties.
- Finalize rehearsal dinner details.
- Decide menu for reception.
- Purchase a going away outfit.

TWO WEEKS BEFORE

- Arrange to have names changed on driver's license, social security card, etc.
- Finish addressing announcements to be

mailed the day of your wedding.

- Contact guests who have not responded.
- Pick up rings and confirm that they fit.
- Meet with your photographer and decide on special photos you want taken.
- Meet with videographer and decide on special events or people you want videotaped.
- Meet with entertainer and determine music to be played during special events (i.e., garter/bouquet toss, cutting of cake, first dance, parents' dance, etc.)
- Continue writing thank-you notes

ON THE DAY

- Remain calm and relaxed.
- Eat well.
- Don't forget the rings and marriage license.
- Start dressing 1 1/2 hours before the ceremony.
- If pictures are taken prior to the ceremony, the entire wedding party needs to be dressed and ready 2 hours before the ceremony.
- Mail wedding announcements and thank-you notes.
- Have music start 30 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony.
- Have ushers seat guests upon arrival.
- Have groom's parents seated 5 minutes prior to the start of the ceremony.
- Have bride's mother seated immediately before processional.



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Farm to Table FLOWERS

By Lynn Leishman
Photos by Amy Kumler

Selecting wedding flowers is a lot like eating what's in season: Choosing what's abundant means both better quality and a better price. Put your faith in both Mother Nature and your florist to determine what blossoms to use for the wedding party, as well as venue and reception décor. Choose a color palate rather than a specific color and flower. In other words, be flexible.

One trend destined to continue in 2015 is rustic, blushing soft, pastel bouquets. A pale, delicate mix of coral, pink, blush, ivory, yellow and white with both spring and dusty greens is glorious. As for containers, forget standard floral vases. Seasonal blooms of any color, gathered in flea market tarnished silver, tin, pewter, mercury glass or even gold spray-painted vegetable cans make for a creative, just-picked, unfussy look. 🌸



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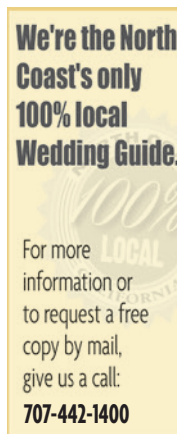
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Humboldt, 840-9514, issastemler@hotmail.com,
piano, organ, accordion

JENIFER BREEZE BAND

Humboldt, www.humboldtmusic.com/breeze,
gospel, soul, acoustic rock

JILL PETRICCA

Humboldt, 445-2613, jillpetricca@sbcglobal.net,
solo or assorted group, classical and jazz

JIMI JEFF & THE GYPSY BAND

Humboldt, 496-6049, www.jimi-jeff.com, old
school funk, soul, Hendrix, Prince, blues, R&B

JUDY PHILLIPS, HARPIS

Humboldt, 845-6110, jmp2@sbcglobal.net, www.
judyphillipsharpist.com, easy listening and Celtic

JULIE FROBLON & MARY DEANDREIS

Humboldt, 442-7712, flute and violin duo,
Baroque, classical and more

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com, original Celtic harp, commissions accepted

KENNY RAY & THE MIGHTY ROVERS

Humboldt, 768-3336, blueheroncases@gmail.com,
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KEVIN ROLAND

Humboldt, 444-8946, www.donsneighbors.com,
piano singer/songwriter

LANDFALL PERFORMANCES

Humboldt, 826-2961, custom vocals by Seaila

LES CONVERSATIONS GALANTES

Humboldt, 845-1788, funambul@humboldt1.com,
violin duo

LOST COAST MARIMBA BAND

Whitethorn, 986-7341, chango@hughes.net

THE LOST LUVS

Arcata, thelostluvs@gmail.com, Find us on
Facebook, vintage rock covers

MAGIC MOMENTS

Bayside, 822-9639, vocals and instrumentals

MAGNOLIA

Humboldt, 441-1458, 822-6169, katmlee@
suddenlink.net, all styles

MARLA JOY & MIKE CONBOY

Humboldt, 845-4307, marla_joy@suddenlink.net,
jazz flute/guitar duo

MATTHEW COOK

Humboldt, 826-2919, www.matthewcook.com,
pianist, all styles

MEADOWOOD STRING QUARTET

Humboldt, 442-0689, classical music

NICE 'N' EASY

Humboldt, 443-8810, easy listening dance music,
traditional swing

NIGHTHAWK

Miranda, 943-1913, www.nighthawkrocks.com,
rock/dance

NORTHCOAST BRASS ENSEMBLE

Northern Humboldt, 822-7917, 822-3610,
ftempas@suddenlink.net, brass quintet:
traditional, classical, jazz

PONCHE!

Humboldt, 923-3449, jmmydur@asis.com,
AfroCuban salsa

PRESSURE ANYA DJ DUO

Humboldt, 267-7950, booking@pressureanya.
com, www.pressureanya.com, Voted Best Of
Humboldt Club DJs 2014

REDWOOD RAKS WORLD DANCE STUDIO

Arcata, 707-616-6876, dance@shoshannaland.com,
www.redwoodraks.com

ROADMASTERS

Eureka, 442-1954, www.theroadmastersband.com

RODDY ROSS

Humboldt, 839-1854, solo violin or bagpipe

RUBEN DIAZ

Humboldt, 826-7403, www.humboldtmusic.com,
jazz, blues, Latin solo or combo

SAMBA DA ALEGRIA

Humboldt, 499-1591, samba_da_alegria@yahoo.com

SAMBA NA CHUVA

Arcata, 845-3225, www.sambanachuva.com,
Brazilian

SAMBAMORE

Humboldt, 499-1591, humdrumdance@yahoo.
com, drums

SEABURY GOULD

Humboldt, 444-8507, www.seaburygould.com,
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Humboldt/Trinity, 822-2419, www.seansshadows.
com, shadow puppet theater for children

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Arcata, 616-0444, Find us on Facebook, folk, rock,
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THE BUCKY WALTERS

Arcata, 825-9657, 497-4607, (619) 339-3568,
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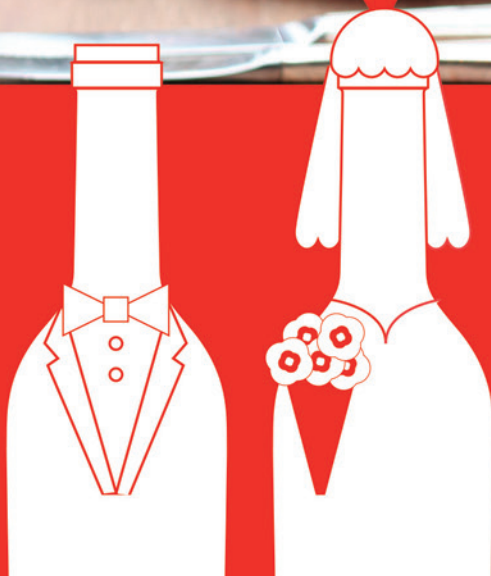
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MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37

THE LIVING ROOMS

Humboldt, 826-7711, jamyers27@sbcglobal.net, acoustic eclectic

THE NUCLEUS

Arcata, 497-4362, funk rock jam band

THE SOULFUL SIDEKICKS

Humboldt, 443-6108, 442-0074, folk/blues, harmonic ballads

TROMBONES @ 4

Humboldt, 443-2626, dick.kathy@yahoo.com, classical, pop, jazz/swing

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Humboldt, vvvbvixens@gmail.com

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Humboldt, 822-4716, dawcooper@sbcglobal.net, jazz pianist

ZUMBA DANCE

Eureka, 845-4307, marla_joy@suddenlink.net, Latin dance fitness for everyone

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Humboldt, 826-5438, jbp5@humboldt.edu, piano and bass jazz duo

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Humboldt, (925) 705-1983, www.djgump.com

DJ HAL

Eureka, 834-4568, hallowery@yahoo.com

DJ ITCHIE FINGAZ

Arcata, 616-8444, itchiefingaz@gmail.com

DJ KEV

Eureka, 444-8946, www.donsneighbors.com, all music styles

DJ PETE MYER

Blue Lake, 668-5751, www.djpetemeyer.com

DJ STIR FRY WILLIE

Hydesville, 845-0838, www.stirfrywillie.com

LIVE SOUND CO., DJ MARIO

Eureka, 444-0131, Mariodj@suddenlink.net, web.me.com/livesoundco

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www.pressureanya.com, Voted Best Of Humboldt Club DJs 2014

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Eureka, 498-1738

UNIVERSAL BALANCE PRODUCTIONS

Arcata, 822-5582, samsafer@gmail.com

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Welcome to the Wedding Guide 2015

The moment you get engaged, everybody starts throwing around the word “perfect.” You’re the perfect couple. The rings have to be perfect. You hunt for the perfect dress.

There are a million and one details to figure and finalize to make the big day *perfect*.

Bridal magazines, even our own Wedding Guide, are tulle-layered tomes of perfection, bursting at the French seams with invitations, place settings and appetizers that are *just so*. Who wouldn’t want that?

But the thing is, this isn’t Martha Stewart’s wedding and it isn’t Vera Wang’s, either. It’s *yours*. So make it *your* kind of perfect, a celebration that speaks to the real you, as individuals and as a couple, the real life you’re starting together.

In this issue, along with an exhaustive list of wedding and party businesses to help you pick and choose and plan, you’ll find all kinds of ways to bring the real you to the event and have some fun.

Read on and you’ll see why Jenna and Cory Sutton’s wedding on a ranch in Carlotta couldn’t have been anyone else’s. No cookie-cutter event for them: From her horseback entrance to his doe-and-buck-topped groom’s cake, the Suttons made their wedding their own.

After the formal photos are done (*timeless! gorgeous! now you can exhale*), how about a little goofing off? Take a peek inside some local photo booths (you remember — the pre-selfie selfie) and see how guests and newlyweds are clowning around and capturing the good times.

We’re also looking at some sweetly different flower arrangements with plenty of personality to inspire your imagination. And if you or someone you love has the itch to stitch, be sure to check out our story on cozy wedding quilts that are destined to become family heirlooms.

We hope you’ll enjoy flipping through the photos and the stories here — and remember, you can pore over past editions and expanded listings online at northcoastjournal.com — and that they’ll help you put together something better than some perfect wedding: your perfect wedding.

— Jennifer Fumiko Cahill

VENUES

In addition to churches,
community centers grange halls
and veterans buildings

ABRUZZI PLAZA VIEW ROOM

Arcata, 826-2377, chris@abruzzicatering.com,
www.abruzzicatering.com, 200 indoor

ADORNI RECREATION CENTER

Eureka, 441-4241, lmeyash@ci.eureka.ca.gov,
www.ci.eureka.ca.gov, 400 indoor

ALDERGROVE GARDENS

Arcata, 826-2517, aldergrovegardens@yahoo.com,
www.lostcoastfederation.com/Aldergrove,
300 outdoor

ARCATA THEATRE LOUNGE

Arcata, 707-822-1220, info@arcatatheatre.com,
www.arcatatheatre.com

AZALEA HALL

McKinleyville, 839-8975, mcsd@mckinleyvillecsd.com,
www.mckinleyvillecsd.com/azalea-hall,
Hewitt Room: 200 banquet, 300 assembly,
Meeting Room: 50 banquets, 75 assembly

BAYSIDE GRANGE HALL

Bayside, 822-9998, www.baysidegrange.org,
410 indoor

BAYWOOD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB

Arcata, 822-3686 x108, heidi@baywoodgcc.com,
www.baywoodgcc.com, 220 indoor

BEAR RIVER CASINO & HOTEL

Loleta, 733-9644, www.bearrivercasino.com/
meetings-events, 180 indoor

BENBOW INN

Garberville, 923-2124, www.benbowinn.com,
140 outdoor dining; 75 adjoining dining room
(enclosed).

BUTTERFLY WAY

Fortuna, 725-2424, www.butterflyway.com

CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Humboldt, www.parks.ca.gov, Humboldt,
Del Norte, Trinity and Mendocino counties

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www.carterhouse.com

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www.celebration-blvd.com

COOKS VALLEY WEDDINGS

Piercy, 247-3455, www.cooksvalleyweddings.com,
1,000 outdoor

COOKSON RANCH

Blue Lake, Reservations: Warren Nelson 502-2695;
Info: Brandon LaPorte 498-6380, www.cookson-ranch.org, 150 for day use, overnight stays

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McKinleyville, 840-0100, dowsgrange@gmail.com,
www.dowspairiegrange.org

EUREKA INN

Eureka, 877-552-3985 497-6093, reservations@eurekainn.com,
www.eurekainn.com, 300 indoor

EUREKA THEATER

Eureka, 442-2970, info@eurekatheater.org,
www.theeurekatheater.org

EUREKA VETERANS MEMORIAL HALL

Eureka, 443-5341, post1872@yahoo.com,
www.eurekavetshall.info

EUREKA WOMEN'S CLUB

Eureka, 442-3458, www.eurekaheritage.org

FERN COTTAGE

Ferndale, 786-4835, 786-4735, info@ferncottage.org,
www.ferncottage.org, 300 outdoor

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Humboldt, www.co.humboldt.ca.us/portal/living/county_parks

HUMBOLDT GRANGE HALL

Eureka, 442-4890, Find us on Facebook,
264 indoor

HUMBOLDT REDWOODS STATE PARK

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www.humboldtredwoods.org

HUMBOLDT UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

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www.huuf.org, 150 indoor/outdoor

IRIS HOUSE

Eureka, 445-0307, innkeeper@theirishouse.com,
www.theirishouse.com, 60 indoor

THE JAMBALAYA

Arcata, 707-822-4766,
www.jambalayaarcata.com, 218 indoor

LARRUPIN CAFÉ

Trinidad, 677-0230,
Restaurant: paul@larrupin.com,
Booking: music@larrupin.com,
www.larrupin.com, 200 indoor/outdoor

LOST WHALE INN

Trinidad, 677-3425, info@lostwhaleinn.com, www.lostwhaleinn.com, 100 indoor/outdoor

MADAKET

Eureka, 707-445-1910,
humboltdbaymaritimemuseum@yahoo.com,
www.humboltdbaymaritimemuseum.com

MANILA COMMUNITY CENTER

Manila, 444-3803, www.manilacsd.com/Parks_and_Recreation.htm, 300 standing, 150 seated
indoor/outdoor

MATEEL COMMUNITY CENTER

Redway, 923-3368, www.mateel.org/renthall.html,
www.mateel.org, 800 standing, 300 seated indoor.

MATTOLE CAMP & RETREAT CENTER

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www.mattolecamp.com

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Eureka, 443-6809

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www.otterbar.com

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Trinidad, 677-3110, www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=417

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www.redlion.com/our-hotels/california/eureka

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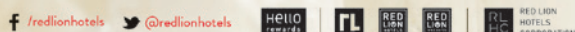


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Arcata, 707-616-6876, dance@shoshannaland.com, www.redwoodraks.com, 200 indoor

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Arcata, 499-9552, cater@ritascafe.com

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SAMOA MANSION & SAMOA WOMEN'S CLUB

Samoa, 822-2900, www.danco-group.com, 75 indoor.

SAPPHIRE PALACE, BLUE LAKE CASINO

Blue Lake, 668.9770, info@bluelakecasino.com, www.bluelakecasino.com

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Scotia, 764-5338, www.thescotiainn.com, Private dining room/bar 250 indoor; board room 30 indoor.

THE SEA GRILL

Eureka, 443-7187, Find us on Facebook, 50 indoor

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Eureka, 441-4263, info@sequoiaparkzoo.net, www.sequoiaparkzoo.net, 175 indoor, 2,000 outdoor (entire zoo)

SEWELL GALLERY

Eureka, 269-0617, www.sewellgallery.com, 150 indoor

STRAWHOUSE

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Lyndon and Brittany Powell ham it up in a Sunny Nights photo booth at their wedding. Guests Ashley Pearce, Carolyn Barnhart and Jenna Barnhart photobomb from behind.

Photo courtesy of Sunny Nights Photo Booth.

Step Right In

Say “cheese” to photo booths

By Heather Shelton

In a classic wedding photograph, bride Brittany Powell and her husband, Lyndon, are posed standing under a shady tree outside the River Lodge in Fortuna. She wears a stunning white gown, a strand of pearls and drop earrings, while he dons a classic gray suit, purple tie and a corsage that complements Brittany’s bouquet.

“It’ll be nice looking back at our photos,” said Lyndon Powell, reminiscing about the

couple’s wedding day on Sept. 6, 2014. “We’re going to see our formal photos and remember how romantic it was, but then we can look at these pictures and we’ll see we had a lot of fun, too.”

In one of “these pictures,” Lyndon sports red shades, an English bobby helmet and a faux frown while Brittany Powell wears oversized orange sunglasses and a goofy grin. Their friends are clustered behind the couple,

making similarly silly faces.

These images are the product of a fun, fast-growing wedding trend: the photo booth. Photo booths blend something old with something new. They harken back to a day when kids would pile into vintage photo booths at arcades and fairs for some photographic fun. The booths also feed people’s love of snappy selfies.

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STEP RIGHT IN

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Humboldt County is home to several photo booth companies. The Powells used Sunny Nights Photobooth, run by local pastors Jason and Bethany Cseh. Their handcrafted booths have a bench inside for folks to sit on and several windows behind the seating area through which guests can stick their heads to make cameo appearances. Once inside the booth, all a person has to do is press a button on the automated camera and strike a pose. Within seconds, the photo machine shoots out strips of small pictures — instant wedding memories.

To add to the fun, Sunny Nights offers a bunch of props that people can use to enhance their photos — from wild hats, bow ties and glasses to fake moustaches, Mardi Gras masks and more.

“One of things that happens inside a photo booth is people lose themselves,” Jason Cseh said. “No one else can see them. They forget who they are for a little while and they totally let loose and have fun.”

Kacy Curtis and Sean Knife started their photo booth business, Forget-Me-Not Photo, in January 2009. A massage therapist by trade, Curtis was inspired to start the new business after going to her best friend's wedding and seeing all the fun guests had at the photo booth there.

“I started researching it and decided that was the most amazing thing I'd ever seen,” Curtis said. Several months later, she and Knife launched Forget-Me-Not Photo. Today, they have three booths and participate in weddings and other special celebrations from San Francisco to Portland.

“My most favorite part of the photo



Newlyweds Katie and David Campbell try out their new titles.

Photo courtesy of Sunny Nights Photo Booth.

booth is when I'm standing outside of it and it's closed and you can hear them laughing inside,” she said. “It just warms my heart. I feel really blessed to be able to be the facilitator of holding that space for people to just have a great time.”

In Humboldt County, photo booth rental prices range between \$500 and \$700 for a few hours at an event. The price includes delivery and set up, an on-site photo booth attendant, photo printing and props to kick things up. Extra charges apply for things like

additional hours, a flash drive with high-resolution images or a video keepsake of the event.

The Powells had a ball with the photo booth at their wedding and recommend it to everyone.

“It was the hit of the wedding,” Brittany said. “The best thing is seeing the pictures after the fact and seeing what a good time everyone had. And, everyone gets to take these pictures home.”



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